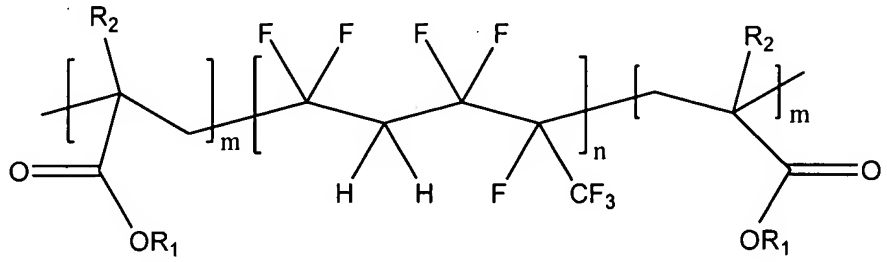
In the Specification

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 4 as follows:

In a further embodiment, the fluorinated block copolymer has a structure ~~of the following~~ as shown below:



wherein R_1 is $-CH_3$, $-CH_2CH_3$, $-CH_2CH_2CH_3$, $-CH_2CH_2CH_2CH_3$, $-CH_2CH_2OH$, or –PEG; and

wherein R_2 is –H, $–CH_3$, $-CF_3$, $-CH_2CH_3$, $-CH_2CH_2CH_3$, $-CH_2CH_2CH_2CH_3$, -phenyl, or naphthyl~~;~~.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 13 as follows:

In an embodiment, the ~~dihalogen~~ di-halo fluorinated macromer can be a poly(fluorinated olefin) bearing two halogen groups at both termini. This dihalo fluorinated macromer can be readily synthesized by polymerizing a fluorinated olefin or a mixture of a fluorinated olefin in the presence of a dihalide and a peroxide (Ying, et al., *Polym. Preprints* 39(2):843 (1998); Zhang, et al., Polymer 40:1341 (1999); and Modena, et al., *J. fluorine Chem.* 4315(1989)). For example, a diiodo fluorinated macromer having as repeating unit $–CF_2CH_2CF_2CF(CF_3)-$ can be readily synthesized by polymerizing a mixture of vinylidene fluoride and 1,1,2,3,3,3-hexafluoropropene in the presence of a peroxide and 1,2-diiodo-1,1,2,2-tetrafluoroehthane (Scheme 1) (Ying, et al.,

Polym. Preprints 39(2):843 (1998); Zhang, et al., Polymer 40:1341 (1999); and Modena, et al., *J. fluorine Chem.* 43 15 (1989)).

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 5 as follows:

Materials or polymers useful as the non-fluorinated blocks described herein include any polymers or macromers that can be directly attached to a fluorinated macromer described herein or polymers or macromers that can be functionalized to attach one or more functional groups such as hydroxyl, amino, halo, and carboxyl and other linking groups. Exemplary materials or polymers useful as the non-fluorinated blocks include, but are not limited to, polyolefins, polyalkylene oxides, polyglycols such as poly(ethylene glycol) and poly(propylene glycol), polylactic acid, poly(lactide-co-glycolide), polyhydroxyalkanoate, poly(hydroxybutyrate-co-valerate), polyorthoester, polyanhydride, poly(glycolic acid-co-trimethylene carbonate), polyphosphoester, polyphosphoester urethane, poly(amino acids), poly(cyanoacrylates), poly(trimethylene carbonate), poly(iminocarbonate), copoly(ether-esters) (e.g. PEO/PLA), polyalkylene oxalates, polyphosphazenes, biomolecules, such as fibrin, fibrinogen, cellulose, starch, collagen and hyaluronic acid, polyurethanes, silicones, polyesters, polyolefins, polyisobutylene and ethylene-alphaolefin copolymers, acrylic polymers and copolymers, vinyl halide polymers and copolymers, such as polyvinyl chloride, polyvinyl ethers, such as polyvinyl methyl ether, polyvinylidene halides, such as polyvinylidene fluoride and polyvinylidene chloride, polyacrylonitrile, polyvinyl ketones, polyvinyl aromatics, such as polystyrene, polyvinyl esters, such as polyvinyl acetate, copolymers of vinyl monomers with each other and olefins, such as ethylene-methyl methacrylate copolymers, acrylonitrile-styrene copolymers, ABS resins, and

ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymers~~;~~ polyamides, such as Nylon 66 and polycaprolactam~~;~~ alkyd resins~~;~~ polycarbonates~~;~~ polyoxymethylenes~~;~~ polyimides~~;~~ polyethers~~;~~ epoxy resins~~;~~ polyurethanes~~;~~ rayon~~;~~ rayon-triacetate~~;~~ cellulose acetate~~;~~ cellulose butyrate~~;~~ cellulose acetate butyrate~~;~~ cellophane~~;~~ cellulose nitrate~~;~~ cellulose propionate~~;~~ cellulose ethers~~;~~ and carboxymethyl cellulose. As used herein, the term "non-fluorinated block" may include fluorinated pendant groups such as $-CF_3$.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 3 as follows:

As shown in Scheme 2, many different polymers can be made. For example, in addition to variations of the substituents such as R_1 and R_2 in Scheme 2, the ratio of the fluorinated block to the non-fluorinated block can be varied, leading to formation of block copolymers having different level of hydrophobicity and permeability with different surface and mechanical properties. For example, following the method shown in Scheme 2, block copolymers comprising a fluorinated block and non-fluorinated blocks of hydrophilic monomers such as hydroxyethyl methacrylate, hydroxypropyl methacrylate, N-vinyl pyrrolidone, or polyethylene glycol acrylate can be synthesized. The monomers with labile hydroxy functionalities can be protected with a protecting group (Pg), which can be cleaved ~~upon~~ at the completion of the reaction (Figure 1). The protecting group can be, for example, t-butyl-dimethylsilane or trimethylsilane which can then be deprotected in stochiometric yields with acidic hydrolysis.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 12 as follows:

The ~~Fluorinated~~ fluorinated block copolymer described above can be used to form coating compositions for coating an implantable device, for example, a stent. The

fluorinated block copolymer can be used alone or in combination with another polymer. For use as DES coatings, the composition can include a bioactive agent.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 3 as follws:

The bioactive agent can be any agent that is biologically active, for example, a therapeutic, prophylactic, or diagnostic agent. Examples of suitable therapeutic and prophylactic agents include synthetic inorganic and organic compounds, proteins and peptides, polysaccharides and other sugars, lipids, and DNA and RNA nucleic acid sequences having therapeutic, prophylactic or diagnostic activities. Nucleic acid sequences include genes, antisense molecules which bind to complementary DNA to inhibit transcription, and ribozymes. Compounds with a wide range of molecular weight can be encapsulated, for example, between 100 and 500,000 grams or more per mole. Examples of suitable materials include proteins such as antibodies, receptor ligands, and enzymes, peptides such as adhesion peptides, saccharides and polysaccharides, synthetic organic or inorganic drugs, and nucleic acids. Examples of materials which can be encapsulated include enzymes, blood clotting factors, inhibitors or clot dissolving agents such as streptokinase and tissue plasminogen activator; antigens for immunization; hormones and growth factors; polysaccharides such as heparin; oligonucleotides such as antisense oligonucleotides and ribozymes and retroviral vectors for use in gene therapy. Representative diagnostic agents are agents detectable by x-ray, fluorescence, magnetic resonance imaging, radioactivity, ultrasound, computer tomagraphy (CT) and positron emission tomagraphy (PET). Ultrasound diagnostic agents are typically a gas such as air, oxygen or perfluorocarbons.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 7 as follows:

In one embodiment, the bioactive agent can be for inhibiting the activity of vascular smooth muscle cells. More specifically, the bioactive agent can be aimed at inhibiting abnormal or inappropriate migration and/or proliferation of smooth muscle cells for the inhibition of restenosis. ~~The bioactive agent can also include any substance capable of exerting a therapeutic or prophylactic effect in the practice of the present invention.~~ For example, the bioactive agent can be for enhancing wound healing in a vascular site or improving the structural and elastic properties of the vascular site. Examples of active agents also include antiproliferative substances such as actinomycin D, or derivatives and analogs thereof (manufactured by Sigma-Aldrich 1001 West Saint Paul Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53233~~,~~ or COSMEGEN available from Merck). Synonyms of actinomycin D include dactinomycin, actinomycin IV, actinomycin I_1, actinomycin X_1, and actinomycin C_1. The bioactive agent can also fall under the genus of antineoplastic, anti-inflammatory, antiplatelet, anticoagulant, antifibrin, antithrombin, antimitotic, antibiotic, antiallergic and antioxidant substances. Examples of such antineoplastics and/or antimitotics include paclitaxel (e.g. TAXOL® by Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., Stamford, Conn.), docetaxel (e.g. Taxotere®, from Aventis S.A., Frankfurt, Germany) methotrexate, azathioprine, vincristine, vinblastine, fluorouracil, doxorubicin hydrochloride (e.g. Adriamycin® from Pharmacia & Upjohn, Peapack N.J.), and mitomycin (e.g. Mutamycin® from Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., Stamford, Conn.). Examples of such antiplatelets, anticoagulants, antifibrin, and antithrombins include sodium heparin, low molecular weight heparins, heparinoids, hirudin, argatroban, forskolin, vapiprost, prostacyclin and prostacyclin analogues, dextran, D-phe-pro-arg-chloromethylketone (synthetic antithrombin), dipyridamole, glycoprotein IIb/IIIa platelet

membrane receptor antagonist antibody, recombinant hirudin, and thrombin inhibitors such as Angiomax ä (Biogen, Inc., Cambridge, Mass.). Examples of such cytostatic or antiproliferative agents include angiopeptin, angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors such as captopril (e.g. Capoten® and Capozide® from Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., Stamford, Conn.), cilazapril or lisinopril (e.g. Prinivil® and Prinzide® from Merck & Co., Inc., Whitehouse Station, NJ)÷, calcium channel blockers (such as nifedipine), colchicine, fibroblast growth factor (FGF) antagonists, fish oil (omega 3-fatty acid), histamine antagonists, lovastatin (an inhibitor of HMG-CoA reductase, a cholesterol lowering drug, brand name Mevacor® from Merck & Co., Inc., Whitehouse Station, NJ), monoclonal antibodies (such as those specific for Platelet-Derived Growth Factor (PDGF) receptors), nitroprusside, phosphodiesterase inhibitors, prostaglandin inhibitors, suramin, serotonin blockers, steroids, thioprotease inhibitors, triazolopyrimidine (a PDGF antagonist), and nitric oxide. An example of an antiallergic agent is permirolast potassium. Other therapeutic substances or agents which may be appropriate include alpha-interferon, genetically engineered epithelial cells, tacrolimus, dexamethasone, and rapamycin and structural derivatives or functional analogs thereof, such as 40-O-(2-hydroxy)ethyl-rapamycin (known as Everolimus, available from Novartis as Certican™), 40-O-(3-hydroxy)propyl-rapamycin, 40-O-[2-(2-hydroxy)ethoxy]ethyl-rapamycin, and 40-O-tetrazole-rapamycin. The foregoing substances are listed by way of example and are not meant to be limiting. Other active agents which are currently available or that may be developed in the future are equally applicable.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 8 as follows:

The dosage or concentration of the bioactive agent required to produce a favorable therapeutic effect should be less than the level at which the bioactive agent produces toxic effects and greater than the level at which non-therapeutic results are obtained. The dosage or concentration of the bioactive agent required to inhibit the desired cellular activity of the vascular region can depend upon factors such as the particular circumstances of the patient; the nature of the trauma; the nature of the therapy desired; the time over which the ingredient administered resides at the vascular site; and if other active agents are employed, the nature and type of the substance or combination of substances. Therapeutic effective dosages can be determined empirically, for example by infusing vessels from suitable animal model systems and using immunohistochemical, fluorescent or electron microscopy methods to detect the agent and its effects, or by conducting suitable in vitro studies. Standard pharmacological test procedures to determine dosages are understood by one of ordinary skill in the art.